

MARY J. BRADLEY.

MARCH 7, 1904.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. McCUMBER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 194.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 194) granting a pension to Mary J. Bradley, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

Charles W. Simmons, the soldier named in this bill, served as a private in Company H, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry, from February 1, 1864, to July 7, 1865, when honorably discharged.

Medical records of the War Department show that he was under treatment from August 19 to 22, August 29 to September 10, and on September 14, 1864; nature of the disability not shown.

He applied for pension by his guardian, Mary J. Bradley, his mother, under the provisions of the act of June 27, 1890, on January 6, 1891, alleging that he was wholly disabled for the performance of manual labor by reason of insanity.

Proof filed in the Pension Bureau shows that he was adjudged insane on December 5, 1890.

His claim was rejected in September, 1902, upon the ground of his death on April 2, 1891, leaving neither widow nor minor child surviving.

On January 15, 1892, the beneficiary named in this bill, and now 77 years of age, applied for pension as the mother of the soldier.

This claim was also rejected in September, 1902, upon the ground of no record or other satisfactory competent evidence of the origin of the soldier's fatal epileptic mania and no evidence of its existence at discharge or for many years subsequent thereto, and the claimant's declared inability to furnish medical or other competent testimony connecting his fatal disease with his military service.

In support of her claim the beneficiary filed the testimony of several comrades of the soldier to the effect that in April or May, 1864, while stationed at Chattanooga, Tenn., the soldier was hurt in the head by horses who had stampeded in the night, and that afterwards, while at Rome, Ga., he was lying around the camp acting strange, dull, and stupid.

Some proof was also filed tending to show that the soldier, upon his return from the Army, suffered from Bright's disease; that he was under medical treatment, beginning in 1882, for epilepsy and affection of the mind; that he was admitted to the South Dakota Hospital for the Insane on October 11, 1889, with dementia, and that on April 2, 1891, he died as a result of his insanity.

Other proof shows that the beneficiary is the mother of the soldier; that he died unmarried; that the father died in 1856; that she has not remarried since his death, and that she is dependent upon her daily labor for a support.

The mother of this soldier should not be permitted to suffer when at her old age, notwithstanding the fact that she was unable to meet the technical requirements of the Pension Bureau as to her son's death being the result of his military service, and relief to the extent of granting her a pension at \$12 per month is therefore recommended and the bill reported back with the recommendation that it pass.

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